

NEWSLETTER No 14
THURSDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2011

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Production rehearsals are in full swing at present and students are working hard to fine tune songs, dances and speaking parts. Ticket sales are going well and tickets will be available from our school office throughout the day. Monday night is nearly sold out, but there are a number of tickets available for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Those students who are not involved in Production are taking part in an alternative programme run by Mr Papas, Mrs Jefferys and our Technology staff.

Australasian Science and Writing Tests

Congratulations to two of our students who did so well in these tests recently. Hayden Andersen received a High Distinction award for science and finished in the top 1% of Year 8 students nationally. Eireanne Millikin received a Distinction award for writing and finished in the top 8% of students nationally. Outstanding achievement!!

Curriculum Extension Programmes

Mrs Morris is our Extension Class teacher and she works with groups of students on Mondays and Tuesdays. Her maths extension group have been competing in the Otago Maths Problem Challenge throughout the year and have completed five tests worth five marks

each. Only those students who have received twenty or more marks out of twenty-five go forward to sit the final test. Well done to Anthony Song, Hayden Andersen, Rebecca Bogisch, Rebecca Arnold and Ethan Munn who are eligible to sit the final test.

The Future Problem Solving groups have also been doing well throughout the year. They had their final test two weeks ago and we are hoping that at least one of our groups will have done well enough to take part in the national finals in Auckland.

Mrs Morris is also working with some students who are preparing for the Wellington Region BP Technology Challenge Problem competition to be held at Hutt Intermediate next Tuesday afternoon. All the best of luck to:

Team 1

Eireanne Millikin	Rm 5
Isaac Polaczuk	Rm 5
Theo Wilkins	Rm 15
Eligh Arthur	Rm 20
Daniel Collins	Rm 20

Team 2

Cassandra Langlands	Rm 5
Hayden Andersen	Rm 19
James Jessop	Rm 19
Ethan Courtney	Rm 19

AsTTle Writing Test

This test was administered last week and the student's task was to write a persuasive argument stating whether they agree or disagree with a Board of Trustees decision to consider making it compulsory for all Year 7 and Year 8 students to purchase their own laptop or iPad to use at school. The students had to write about the implications of the decision and who was affected by it. Teachers have been asked to mark six pieces of their writing and these will go to a Naenae Literacy Cluster workshop where they will be moderated (read by several teachers from different schools to see whether or not they agree with the teachers original mark) and returned to school for the teacher to use them as a guide when marking the rest of the student's tests.

Footnote: Please don't panic, the writing task was hypothetical, the Board of Trustees will not in reality require students to buy laptops or iPads.

Rugby World Cup



If you watched the rugby in the weekend you may have noticed that when the two teams walked out of the dressing rooms, the captains of each team was accompanied by a child. These children entered a competition to be selected to do this. Ninety six children between the ages of seven and fourteen were selected nationwide from thirty thousand applicants. One of our students, Maxine Boyle was lucky enough to be selected and will accompany the Argentina captain when they play Scotland in Wellington on the 25th September. Well done Maxine!!

Interschool Table Tennis



We had three girls' teams and three boys' teams taking part in this competition held last Friday in Petone. The girls' teams did particularly well finishing 1st, 3rd and 4th. The boys' teams, whilst unplaced, thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Inter intermediate Soccer

Our girls' team did very well in this tournament held at Wakefield Park in Wellington on Tuesday. They finished third overall with one win, three draws, and a loss from their five games. The boys' tournament was played the previous day at the same venue, but unfortunately they didn't experience the same success as the girls' team. However, they enjoyed the interaction with students from other schools and the opportunity to play on the artificial turf.

Rugby

Yesterday our rugby team competed in the Waterman's Tournament involving sixteen schools in the Wellington Region. Our team was very well prepared and we had high expectations for success. Unfortunately, we struck some very good opponents and our only victory was against St Bernards with a score of 51 - 0. Titahi Bay Intermediate went on to win the tournament beating Masterton Intermediate by 40 points. A small positive in this result for us, was that Titahi Bay only beat us by 12 points in pool play! Thank you to Mr Taylor for his efforts with training the team.

Thank you

Steve Black